

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 13 December, 2004. Claims 8 and 11-17 remain pending. A Petition for Two Month Extension of Time (with fee) is filed concurrently. No changes are made to any pending claims.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Jeffery for the many courtesies extended to Applicants' attorneys (Schneider, Farmer and Franchini) during a telephone interview on 12th May, 2005 during which time the present invention was discussed and contrasted to the document GB 2186769 which was relied upon in the Final Office Action.

In summary, the present claims include several features that have to be considered as a whole with regard to the prior art. These are principally (a) a data transmission window adapted to permit electromagnetic data transmission therethrough, (b) bus bars adjacent side edges of the windscreen, and (c) the whole arrangement not provoking significant perturbation in the heating arrangement of the coating layer.

As pointed out during the telephone interview, GB2186769 describes slits which have the specific purpose to perturb the current flow in a coating on a glazing panel. All the figures of this publication that show bus bars adjacent side edges of the glazing panel, i.e. Figures 13, 16, 17 and to a certain extent Figure 18, show significant perturbation in the heating arrangement of the coating layer, in contradiction with the present claims. The problem caused by such perturbations is commented upon in the specification of the present application at Page 3, lines 1-5. Thus, to the extent relevant at all, GB2186769 teaches away from the present invention in this regard.

Furthermore, as pointed out during the interview, the slits of GB2186769 cannot be equated to "data transmission windows" as that term is understood in the relevant art. It is clear to those of ordinary skill in the relevant art, and in the context of the present patent application,

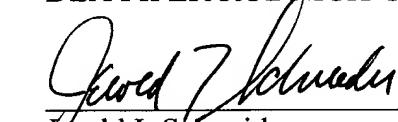
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that the transmission of electromagnetic data cannot be envisaged with slits having a width of several microns as described in GB2186769. The slits of GB2186769 are not adapted to function as data transmission windows. It could not be envisaged to provide an emitter/receiver placed behind the slits of GB2186769 because of "line of sight" problems as between an exterior toll barrier, for example, and the internal emitter/receiver. The issue is not whether some electromagnetic radiation would inherently leak through the slit. Rather the issue is whether GB2186769 teaches one of ordinary skill in the relevant art to provide a "data transmission window" as that term is reasonably understood in the art. There is no evidence of record to support the conclusion that "inherent electromagnetic energy leakage" is sufficient to teach, suggest, motivate or make obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, the provision of a data transmission window in a solar control coated glazing panel.

Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a further interview will expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged and requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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